

confirming the previous County record by Hignett from Oswestry in 1929. From the same location *Agonopterix assimilella* (Treit.) – the third Shropshire record – was reared from larvae collected from broom on 7.v.1994 and *Aphelia paleana* (Hb.) recorded on 21.vii.1992 – was the first record outside Whixall Moss. The fourth Shropshire record for *Exapate congelatella* (Cl.) was noted on 29.x.1993 at light at Pennerley (SO355987).

On a very warm and sunny day (31.v.1994) *Lita sexpunctella* (Fabr.) was found to be very common flying over *Calluna vulgaris* at Nipstone Rock (SO357971). The previous record was from Whixall Moss by Hignett in 1931.– DR DAVID POYNTON, la Castlegate, Prestbury, Cheshire SK10 4AZ.

***Acraea violae* Fab. (Lep.: Acraeidae) a new species for Thailand**

The butterflies of Thailand are fairly well documented, and neither A. Pinratana, *The Butterflies of Thailand* (1979) nor B. D'Abbrera, *Butterflies of the Oriental Region* (1984) which catalogues the material in the British Museum (Natural History) Collection, include this species, the latter giving its distribution as India and Ceylon.

I caught two specimens in the hotel grounds about three miles south of Mai Hong Son in northern Thailand on 2 and 6 April 1994, and another ten miles north of the town on 4 April. However, these are not the first specimens to be taken in Thailand, for several recent additions the British Museum Collection include some from around Chiang Mai, eighty miles to the south-east taken by M. Cotton, 28.vi.1984(2) and 29.iv.1986.

Presumably this recent extension of range will have been via Burma, while the Laos border is not far away from these Thailand localities, and that country may soon, if not already, be colonised. The larvae feed gregariously on *Cucurbitaceae*, which includes melons, gourds and cucumbers. L. Woodhouse *The Butterfly Fauna of Ceylon* (1950) notes that on that island *A. violae* is a minor pest on such cultivated plants; the insect may not be a welcome addition the fauna of Thailand.– B.K. WEST, 36 Briar Road, Dartford, Kent DA5 2HN.

***Telmatophilus brevicollis* Aubé and *T. schoenherri* (Gyll.) (Col.: Cryptophagidae) in West Kent**

There appears to be no published record of either of the above beetles for West Kent, though they are known from the eastern vice-county. In the early 1950s I met with them both in the Higham Marshes below Gravesend, on various occasions in June and July, by sweeping dykeside vegetation – *T. brevicollis*, the rarer species in general, being the more frequent of the two. The locality produced all our species of the genus except *T. sparganii* (Ahr.), the rarest. Both the above species used to be taken at Sheerness, just inside the East Kent border, by J.J. Walker and G.C. Champion.

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